

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY AUGUST 7, 2006

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 21, 2006

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 3, 2006

SENATE BILL

No. 1838

Introduced by Senators Perata and Florez

February 24, 2006

An act to add Sections 129856 and 129880 to the Health and Safety Code, relating to health facilities.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1838, as amended, Perata. Health facilities: construction plans.

The existing Alfred E. Alquist Hospital Facilities Seismic Safety Act of 1983 requires design and construction standards for hospital buildings that house patients who have less than the capacity of normally healthy persons to protect themselves. Existing law also requires that those standards specify that hospitals must be reasonably capable of providing services to the public after a disaster. Existing law requires the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHPD) to approve or reject all plans for the construction or alteration of a hospital building.

This bill would authorize the office to establish a training program to ensure that a sufficient number of qualified persons are available to facilitate the timely performance of the office's duties and responsibilities, as specified.

The bill would authorize the office to exempt from its plan review process construction or alteration projects for hospital buildings and certain other buildings with estimated construction costs of \$50,000 or less if specified criteria are met. The bill would require a presubmittal

meeting between the office and the design professionals for construction or alteration projects for those buildings with estimated construction costs of \$20,000,000 or more.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 129856 is added to the Health and
2 Safety Code, to read:

3 129856. The office may establish a training program to
4 ensure that a sufficient number of qualified persons are available
5 to facilitate the timely performance of the office's duties and
6 responsibilities relating to the review of plans and specifications
7 pertaining to the design and construction of hospital buildings
8 and buildings described in paragraphs (2) and (3) of subdivision
9 (b) of Section 129725, to ensure compliance with applicable fire
10 and life safety codes and standards.

11 SEC. 2. Section 129880 is added to the Health and Safety
12 Code, to read:

13 129880. (a) The office may exempt from its plan review
14 process construction or alteration projects for hospital buildings
15 and buildings described in paragraphs (2) and (3) of subdivision
16 (b) of Section 129725 with estimated construction costs of fifty
17 thousand dollars (\$50,000) or less. The criteria for exemption
18 shall include, but not be limited to, plans that have been stamped
19 and signed by the design professionals of record.

20 (b) ~~The office shall issue plan approval for projects that meet~~
21 ~~the criteria established pursuant to subdivision (a).~~ Projects that
22 have been split into a series of smaller projects in order to avoid
23 the qualifying dollar limits shall not be approved. The office shall
24 maintain its construction observation mandate to ensure public
25 safety and California Building Standards Code compliance for
26 approved projects.

27 (c) A presubmittal meeting between the office and the design
28 professionals shall be required for construction or alteration
29 projects for hospital buildings and buildings described in
30 paragraphs (2) and (3) of subdivision (b) of Section 129725 with
31 estimated construction costs of twenty million dollars
32 (\$20,000,000) or more.

1 (d) The office may adopt regulations for this section to make
2 specific the exemption criteria and processes authorized pursuant
3 to subdivision (a), and the complete plan review process required
4 pursuant to subdivision (c).

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